June 2013
Southern Alberta Floods

One-Year Report
June 26, 2014

Alberta
Government

Alberta's Flood Recovery

One year since the devastating floods of June 2013 – a natural disaster unprecedented in our history – Alberta is moving forward on the road to recovery with all the energy and determination that characterizes our province. The recovery is far from complete, but our progress has been incredible, largely due to the efforts of Albertans and all levels of government. We're working together to rebuild homes, businesses and communities, and to make them more resilient for the future.

But even as we embark on long-term recovery, the memory of last year's floods remains fresh. After all, it was just one year ago that the challenges facing our province were enormous. Beginning on June 20, more than 100,000 Albertans were forced from their homes by flood waters that inundated Southern Alberta. One week earlier, flooding severely impacted the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo. In all, more than 30 communities declared local states of emergency, and the first state of provincial emergency in Alberta's history was declared; nearly 14,500 homes were damaged; 80 schools and 10 health facilities were affected; and nearly 1,000 kilometers of highway were closed. Tragically, five individuals lost their lives as a direct result of the floods.

Albertans quickly united in response to the disaster. Emergency responders from across the province were joined by the Canadian Forces to ensure public safety; community groups and non-profits came together in relief efforts; and friends and neighbours helped one another begin the difficult work of cleaning up.

The Government of Alberta immediately began providing assistance and services for Albertans directly impacted by the floods, including temporary housing and emergency relief payments. The initial response to the flood was coordinated by the Alberta Emergency Management Agency on the ground in impacted communities and from the Provincial Operations Centre (POC) in Edmonton.

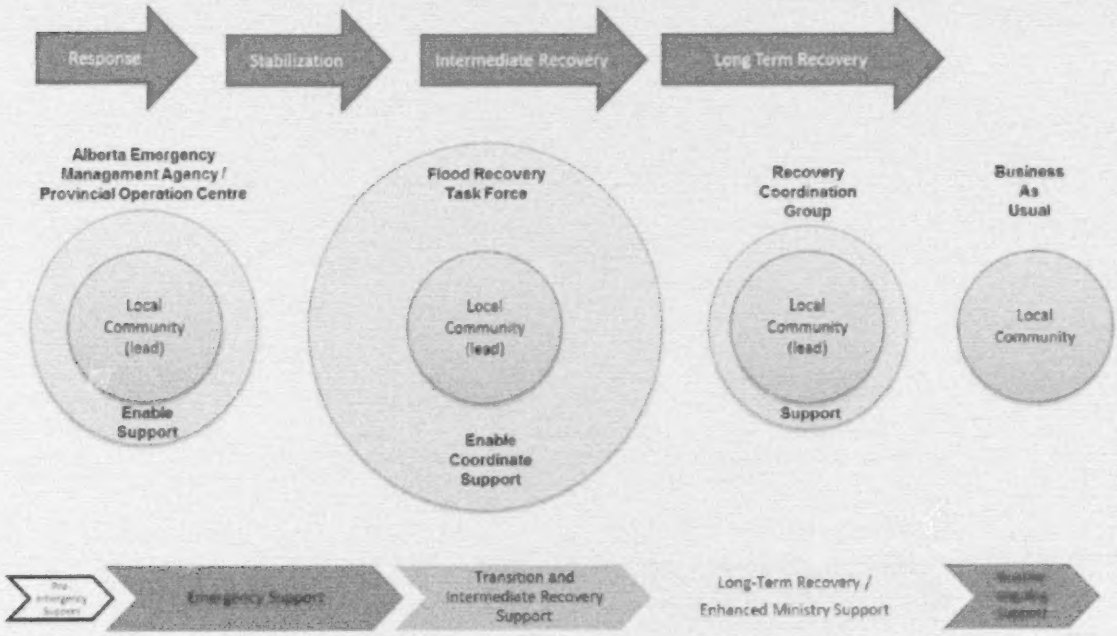
Even as our emergency response was underway, we prepared our strategy for long-term recovery and enhanced resiliency in flood-affected communities. The Government of Alberta committed an initial $1 billion within days of the flood for response and recovery. A Ministerial Task Force was established to oversee the work of a government-wide Flood Recovery Task Force, and three Associate Ministers were appointed to oversee recovery and reconstruction. On July 15, once the situation had stabilized, disaster management was transferred from the POC to the Flood Recovery Task Force, and the recovery phase officially began.

Full recovery from disasters is not accomplished in days or weeks, but over months and years. It requires a concerted effort, considerable investment, active participation by communities and strong partnerships between all levels of government. Only one year in, Alberta's progress towards recovery has been remarkable. This report outlines some of the work that has already taken place, the work that is currently underway and what still lies ahead for flood recovery and mitigation in Alberta.

The Provincial Recovery Framework

Recognizing that recovery requires a holistic, coordinated approach, the Government of Alberta worked collaboratively with stakeholders to develop the Provincial Recovery Framework, which was released on July 18, 2013. It outlined core recovery principles and objectives, a governance model and best practices to ensure flood recovery operations across the province were well aligned.

Disaster recovery is broken into four overlapping stages: response, stabilization, intermediate recovery and long-term recovery. While the province lends significant support at each stage, local communities are empowered to define and lead their own recovery.



As outlined in this report, many important milestones have been achieved in disaster response, stabilization and immediate recovery. After one year, most communities have progressed into long-term recovery and continue to complete their transition to normal levels of provincial government support.

Four Pillars of Recovery

All of the Government of Alberta's recovery efforts are linked to at least one of the four recovery elements identified in the Provincial Recovery Framework: People, Economy, Reconstruction and Environment.

Just as the floods impacted many facets of life, these four elements recognize that recovery encompasses far more than just physical reconstruction.

Specific projects and initiatives under each recovery pillar are underpinned by broader programs and policies, including the Disaster Recovery Program, flood hazard area policies and the provincial Resilience and Mitigation Strategy.

People

The Objective: To ensure the right resources are available to support the overall physical, mental and social well-being of communities, municipalities, First Nations, families and individual Albertans impacted by the floods.

Thanks to the dedication of community agencies, the generosity of volunteers, and the compassion and mutual concern of neighbours, a wide range of resources continue to be in place to support flood-affected individuals and communities.

In support of the People pillar of recovery, the Government of Alberta has:

- Delivered immediate relief and supports to Albertans who needed it most.
    - $65 million in emergency funds (through debit cards and cheques) were provided to more than 56,000 people who were evacuated from their homes for seven days or more.
    - Emergency child care was offered to help families whose lives were disrupted in the immediate aftermath of the floods.
    - Alberta Health Services conducted health inspections of impacted buildings, and thousands of respiratory masks were distributed to protect those engaged in cleanup of their homes and businesses.
    - Government partnered with the Red Cross to deliver the Winter Emergency Heat Program, providing furnaces, hot water tanks and other essentials for those rebuilding or repairing homes before the winter months.
- Provided enhanced psychosocial supports to address the trauma caused by the floods.
    - $50 million has been allocated over two years to provide increased mental health counselling, social services, family violence and addictions support.
    - Provided provincially coordinated supports to emergency social services for evacuees in numerous communities throughout Southern Alberta. These services included provision of supports to reception centres, temporary lodging, food, staffing, community re-entry supports, pet care, volunteer management, donation management, crisis supports and coordination of essential needs.
    - Flood Recovery Task Force, Human Services and Alberta Health Services staff have participated in numerous community information sessions and conducted door-to-door outreach to thousands of affected Albertans to ensure they are connected with available supports.
    - $4 million in grants has been made available to non-profit agencies and voluntary organizations facing increased client demand as a result of the floods.
- Helped reinforce community spirit across the province.
    - $10.5 million in grants made available to support restoration and preservation of historic buildings, museums and archives.
    - Provided funding support to Alberta Arts Rebuild, a partnership of more than 35 government and community agencies assisting flood-affected arts organizations.

    - The Heroes of the Flood program was created to recognize outstanding individuals who supported others during and following the floods. Albertans submitted more than 1,300 nominations for groups, individuals and companies.
- Supported municipalities by providing them with the tools and resources needed to help them lead their recovery.
    - $25 million has been allocated over three years to allow municipalities to hire the additional staff and expertise required to support their recovery.
    - A range of revenue stabilization funding has been approved to help municipalities maintain their property tax base.
    - *The Municipal Government Act* was changed to allow the province to modify or temporarily exempt municipalities from requirements of the Act in emergency situations. For example, the changes made it easier to issue development permits for temporary uses during recovery.

Long-term recovery initiatives include:

- Continued mental health and social supports to address the long-term effects of the disaster.
- Community development services for temporary communities designed to foster a sense of well-being within temporary housing facilities.
- Support for cultural institutions to re-establish programs.

Economy

The Objective: To nurture an environment that supports the rehabilitation of, and reinvestment in, disrupted economies and businesses.

More than 1,500 businesses were disrupted by the floods and Alberta's tourism industry was severely impacted. In partnership with local communities, businesses and economic development agencies, programs have been developed to support not only immediate recovery, but also long-term economic viability.

In support of the Economy pillar of recovery, the Government of Alberta has:

- Developed a suite of programs to provide short-term financial assistance to affected businesses.
    - The Alberta Flood Recovery Loan Guarantee program provides low-interest loans of up to $1 million through participating financial institutions and the Agricultural Financial Services Corporation.
    - The Alberta Flood Recovery Interest Rebate Program provides interest rebates of up to four per cent on flood recovery loans.
    - The Small Business Rebuilding Program provides financial assistance to flood-affected businesses with between 21 and 50 full-time equivalent (FTE) employees, complementing the existing Disaster Recovery Program for businesses with fewer than 21 FTEs.
- Worked to promote Alberta communities and economic sectors impacted by the floods.

- Support has been provided to charity concerts and other events designed to raise funds, enhance local profile and help rebuild communities.
- A broad marketing strategy was put in place to support the tourism industry's recovery.

Long-term recovery initiatives include:

- A Collaborative Economic Renewal Initiative to help make local and regional economies more robust and competitive.
- Training and education programs to encourage First Nations participation in reconstruction efforts and increase future employment opportunities.

Reconstruction

The Objective: To enable the safe and orderly restoration of flood-damaged infrastructure within affected areas.

The rebuilding of infrastructure and restoration of public services has been a key priority in Alberta's flood recovery. Utilities and public infrastructure were extensively damaged in the flood, and returning them to operation has been an essential aspect of resuming normal life.

In support of the Reconstruction pillar of recovery, the Government of Alberta has:

- Reinstated all health services impacted by the floods.
  - High River hospital resumed urgent care services on July 10, 2013 and full services on September 26, 2013.
  - $5 million has been provided towards the reconstruction of the heavily-damaged Medicine Tree Manor seniors lodge in High River.
  - Residents formerly accommodated at the Holy Cross in Calgary have been transferred to permanent beds at other Carewest facilities.
- Restored critical transportation routes.
  - Of the 985 km of provincial routes closed due to flood damage, 909 km (92 per cent) have been re-opened.
  - The Trans-Canada Highway was re-opened within six days of the floods.
  - More than 300 affected bridges and crossings have been inspected for safety.
- Provided classroom space for students in flood-affected areas to return to school in the fall.
  - 54 modular classrooms and a temporary gym were installed to accommodate 900 students from three schools in High River and Calgary.
  - Of the 80 schools impacted by the floods, all but Elbow Park in Calgary and Holy Spirit Academy in High River will be open in 2014.

Long-term recovery initiatives include:

- Reducing vulnerability of critical public infrastructure to flooding.
  - More than $100 million has been allocated over three years for mitigation projects to protect the province's most vulnerable transportation infrastructure.

- $20 million in mitigation funding has been allocated for eight schools in Calgary and High River.
- Engineering is underway for mitigation projects to protect critical hospital sites.

Environment

The Objective: To protect and re-establish the environment to a healthy state and mitigate long-term environmental impacts and risks.

Recovery efforts have focused on the provision of safe water and wastewater treatment services, restoration of park facilities and protection of aquatic habitats. Other reconstruction and mitigation projects have required expedited regulatory reviews, but additional resources have been allocated to ensure that environmental standards are maintained.

In support of the Environment pillar of recovery, the Government of Alberta has:

- Encouraged innovative community solutions to provide safe and reliable water and wastewater services.
  - Support is being provided for the Quad Regional Water Partnership to complete a system that will share wells and water treatment facilities between Turner Valley, Black Diamond and other communities in the MD of Foothills.
  - Funding is also being provided to support the connection of Bragg Creek residences to treated water/wastewater systems.
- Begun restoration of vital fish habitats and supportive facilities.
  - $11 million has been allocated for restoration of disturbed habitats and mitigation of future damage.
  - The Bow Habitat Station and the Sam Livingston Fish Hatchery have resumed operations.
- Begun repair and restoration of damage park facilities and infrastructure.
  - $81 million has been allocated to restore damaged trails, pathways, day use areas and campgrounds in Kananaskis, Fish Creek and Wyndham Carseland Provincial Parks, and Oldman River Provincial Recreation Area.
  - $10 million has been allocated to repair flood-damaged backcountry trails.

Long-term recovery initiatives include:

- Completion of longer-term park restoration projects.
- Mitigation projects to protect key water management infrastructure.

Recovery Programs and Policies

Since June 20, 2013, the Government of Alberta has worked toward ensuring that impacted Albertans have had the necessary tools and supports to make it through the emergency and successfully re-establish their lives.

The Disaster Recovery Program

Within eight days of the floods, the Disaster Recovery Program (DRP) was established and ready to receive applications. Over the following months, thousands of applications for flood recovery funding came in to provincial offices. By the November 30, 2013, deadline, nearly 10,500 applications had been received, 1,600 of which were small business applications.

The scope and scale of the 2013 floods were unprecedented for the DRP. As new challenges arose, DRP policies were adapted to meet the needs of clients. Significant efforts were made to process payments faster, open additional registration centres and hold information sessions in impacted communities to provide face-to-face updates to Albertans. The government also worked closely with the insurance industry to resolve complicated cases and close information gaps. By March 31, 2014, more than 90 per cent of eligible residential DRP applications were completed.

2013 Southern Alberta Flood DRP Payments – As of June 20, 2014

Total Apps	Completed Applications			Total Paid
	Ineligible	Withdrawn	Paid	
10,486	2,306	1,314	4,054	***$74,623,054.00***

The DRP also distributed funds to address the immediate recovery needs of municipalities. Approximately $210 million has already been provided to municipalities and First Nations towards their emergency operations and infrastructure repair costs.

As staff continue to process outstanding DRP applications, the government is fully committed to improving the program for the future.

First Nations

A guiding principle of Alberta's flood recovery has been that First Nations, regardless of jurisdiction, would have access to supports and services that are equitable to those available to all other Albertans. On November 6 and December 18, 2013, respectively, the Minister of Aboriginal Relations signed Memorandums of Understanding (MOUs) with the Siksika Nation and Stoney Nakoda Nation Chiefs, committing the parties to work together to rebuild and repair all flood-affected homes in their communities. Alberta will share these costs with the Government of Canada.

First Nation flood recovery efforts are aimed at achieving provincial safety and construction standards for infrastructure and housing. The MOUs outline the respective responsibilities of the parties and include skills training programs that will offer First Nations' members the opportunity to contribute to the rebuilding efforts and to develop skills that will benefit the communities in the long-term.

Temporary Housing

Tens of thousands of Albertans were evacuated from their homes during the floods, and many were unable to return to their homes after the initial emergency had subsided.

Nearly 3,000 displaced Albertans registered for interim housing. Another approximately 1,400 members from First Nations communities indicated a need for housing assistance. Those unable to return home were supported with accommodation in dormitories, hotel rooms and temporary neighbourhood units.

Construction of New Temporary Neighbourhoods (NTNs) began immediately following the floods, with a plan to operate them for up to two years if needed. Special consideration was given to families and seniors with specific needs. Six primary NTNs were established:

- Saddlebrook (near High River), with approximate capacity for 1,200.
- Great Plains (Calgary), with approximate capacity for 700.
- Siksika First Nation (three relief sites), with approximate capacity for 300.
- Siksika First Nation subdivision, with approximate capacity for 700.
- Stoney Nakoda First Nation (three relief sites), with approximate capacity for 500.
- MD of Bighorn subdivision, with approximate capacity for 24.

As of June 18, 2014, there are approximately 930 people living in government-supported temporary accommodation, including interim housing neighbourhoods in High River and on the Siksika and Stoney First Nations:

- 193 at Saddlebrook in High River.
- 335 in relief shelters on Siksika First Nation.
- 357 in interim housing on Stoney Nakoda First Nation.
- 16 in mobile homes in the MD of Bighorn.
- 33 in hotels or other accommodations.

A number of displaced residents are staying with friends and family, and not captured in these numbers. Our best estimates put the number of Albertans still out of their homes due to the flood at over 1,000.

From Recovery to Resilience

A key part of the recovery effort has been moving beyond repair and reconstruction to improve overall resiliency in flood-impacted communities. The Government of Alberta has invested in communities to ensure preparedness in the event of future disaster, and in measures to mitigate the impact of future floods.

Flood Hazard Area Policies

In the course of the recovery, the Government of Alberta made a series of policy decisions to reduce future risks in flood hazard areas. *The Flood Recovery and Reconstruction Act, 2013*, included regulation-making powers to restrict future development in the floodway where the fastest and deepest flows occur during a flood. These changes will limit potential property damage and public safety risks from future flood events while honouring the investments made in existing property. Municipal Affairs is doing targeted consultations with municipal and industry stakeholders over the summer on the development of a Floodway Development Regulation, which is targeted for approval in late 2014/early 2015.

Those whose floodway homes were damaged in the 2013 floods are permitted to rebuild, but if they claimed DRP assistance, they will not be eligible a second time. A caveat will be placed on the land title to indicate this. If those living in the affected areas wish to relocate out of the floodway, the government will purchase primary residences at their 2013 tax-assessed value through the Floodway Relocation Program (FRP). Purchased land will be returned to a natural state.

Approximately 160 homes are eligible for the FRP. As of June 20, 2014, 107 homeowners have expressed interest. Of those, 78 acquisition offers have been accepted at a cost of $81.5 million.

Affected residents living in the adjacent "flood fringe" areas will be eligible for subsequent DRP assistance, providing they complete a series of minimum mitigation measures, like installing a sewer backup preventer.

Provincial Support to Community Preparedness

The province, through the Alberta Emergency Management Agency has been working with impacted communities to improve their capacity to respond to future events. Assistance includes:

- A $26 million Flood Readiness Grant Program to develop the operational capacity to implement a series of Flood Readiness Supply initiatives across Southern Alberta, including First Nations. Part of this funding has supported the purchase of equipment, including trailer-mounted water tanks and generators, hand-held radios, sand bag equipment, temporary dams and rescue boats.
- Field officer support and advice, as well as access to the Municipal Recovery Toolkit, to assist communities in assessing their risks and developing emergency response plans that enable effective response.
- A community workshop for the Directors of Emergency Management to facilitate the sharing of best practices and learnings from the 2013 flood events.
- Spring readiness information sessions to support communities in their flood preparation efforts. In spring 2014, sessions were offered in High River, Calgary, Drumheller, Exshaw, Bragg Creek, Turney Valley and Sundre.
- Online and in-person training delivery for community staff for emergency management, Incident Command System, and emergency social services to build community capacity.
- Promotion of regional approaches to emergency management, including development of mutual aid agreements, regional emergency management agreements, and the development of Incident Management Teams that can be used to reinforce communities during large scale of prolonged events.
- The Alberta Emergency Alert System that is provided to communities for the warning of residents continues to be improved to incorporate leading edge technology. This includes the spring 2014 introduction of mobile apps enabling alerts to be received on smart phones and communicating alerts over amateur radio.

Flood Recovery Erosion Control Grants (FREC)

The Flood Recovery Erosion Control (FREC) program, which began in November 2013 as a response to the financial needs of communities wishing to begin environmental mitigation projects, has been providing grants to municipalities for projects such as bank stabilization, repairs to property or infrastructure damaged by floods or erosion, and the building of dikes or berms, among others.

While addressing the need for immediate repairs, it made sense to incorporate more robust construction that would be more resilient to future flood disasters. Funding has been approved for 160 projects in 28 municipalities throughout flood-affected Alberta. Each project has been fully funded by the province to a cost of up to $2 million. Where the project budget is greater than $2 million, Alberta is covering 75 per cent of the cost. Municipalities have the responsibility of balancing the cost of these larger projects.

Examples of major FREC grant projects include:

- Decalta Bridge mitigation over the Sheep River in Turner Valley.
- Siksika Nation water treatment plant repairs.
- Overland flow protection works in Medicine Hat.
- Highwood River bank protection in High River.
- Various bridge and Bow River bank protection projects in Calgary.

Alberta Community Resilience Program (ACRP)

The Alberta Community Resilience Program (ACRP) has recently been announced. The program is similar to the Flood Recovery Erosion Control program, except that it is geared strictly to future mitigation rather than immediate repair. Watershed management is vital throughout the province, so the ACRP grants are open not just to municipalities affected by the 2013 flood, but throughout all of Alberta.

Municipalities, First Nations and Metis Settlements province-wide can apply for funds from ACRP for projects that protect critical municipal infrastructure from flooding. Over the next three years, this cost-share program will direct $325 million in provincial funds for projects such as berms, dikes and riverbank stabilization. These projects will either protect municipal infrastructure such as public buildings, roads or bridges, or enhance public safety by removing potential hazards or improving evacuation times.

The ACRP grants will cover 70 per cent of project costs up to $3 million, and 50 per cent of costs in excess of $3 million. The balance of project costs will be funded by the municipality.

Mitigation Measures

While mitigation cannot prevent floods and other disasters, there are measures that can help control and minimize the effects of floods and other severe weather events. To make Alberta more resilient, the Alberta government has committed $600 million for mitigation projects to improve Alberta's flood resiliency. It is important that ongoing programs consider where our watersheds are vulnerable to flood and drought. The province's strategy includes building diversions that can handle higher-than-normal river flows, stabilizing river and creek banks to lessen the chance of erosion, and upgrading infrastructure to make it more resistant to damage from natural disaster.

Some of these plans may take many years to fully implement. They require consultations, land purchases, complex environmental assessments and consideration of the overall upstream and downstream impacts of decisions. Nobody wants to waste taxpayer dollars, so we need to evaluate projects in terms of cost and overall effectiveness.

Major Mitigation Works under Consideration

In October 2013, government and municipal officials met with participants from the engineering, construction, agricultural, water management and emergency response sectors. Mitigation plans were discussed, which included hiring engineering consultants to work on risk reduction strategies not just for Southern Alberta, but the entire province. In addition to the southern rivers, consultants have looked at ideas for mitigating severe watershed events along the Red Deer and Athabasca River basins. Many ideas have been proposed and their potential cost and impact is being carefully considered.

Springbank Road Off-Stream Reservoir

The proposed reservoir would help control Elbow River flow rates during a flood and help protect residents and property in Rocky View County and Calgary.

- The reservoir would temporarily store flood water and release it back to the Elbow River in a controlled manner when the flood subsides.
- The reservoir would have a storage capacity of 59 million cubic metres. The reservoir and McLean Creek dry dam upstream would significantly reduce Elbow River flows during a flood.

Preliminary design work, environmental review and community consultation are underway.

Highwood River Diversion

The proposed project would divert some of the Highwood River's flow around the Town of High River during a flood with potential for downstream storage for irrigation. Three options are on the table for the diversion route: one south, one north, as well as a split north-south route.

This project is currently in the environmental screening and community consultation phase. Final decisions on how to proceed with the Highwood River diversion will be based on what we learn in the coming months.

Calgary Underground Diversion

A recent study conducted by the City of Calgary determined that diverting water through an underground tunnel nine metres in diameter from the Glenmore Reservoir to the Bow River during a flood would be feasible and should be considered. The next steps in this project are environmental screening and community consultations.

McLean Creek Dry Dam

The proposed dry dam would help control Elbow River flow rates during a flood and help protect residents and property in Rocky View County, Bragg Creek, Redwood Meadows (Tsuu T'ina Nation), and Calgary.

- The dam would have a storage capacity of 49 million cubic metres.

- Coupled with the Springbank Road reservoir downstream, the dam would significantly reduce flow rates during a flood.

The conceptual design is complete and community consultation is underway. A decision on this project will be made after the Calgary underground diversion feasibility study is complete.

Water Management Infrastructure

In May 2014, Alberta committed $104 million for upgrades to critical water management infrastructure. The goal is to minimize potential damage and ensure that the infrastructure continues to operate in the event of another catastrophic flood. Dams and reservoirs are a critical water source for irrigation, and provide water both for industry and individual citizens.

The upgrades will increase the ability to spill excess floodwater from reservoirs to protect dams from erosion or washouts. This is important because it is another way to reduce flood damage to downstream communities.

Upgrades include:

- Completing the combined emergency spillway and connecting canal at the Travers/Little Bow Dam southeast of Vulcan. Also, the Little Bow Dam will be raised and the irrigation outlet will be replaced.
- Constructing a new, concrete emergency spillway at the Bassano Dam to replace the existing earthen emergency spillway. The Eastern Irrigation District owns the dam and will cost-share the project with the Alberta government.
- Replacing the existing wooden emergency spillways at Taylor Coulee Wasteway and Bullhorn Wasteway near Cardston with larger, concrete spillways.

Looking Ahead

Mitigation projects are one of the ways the Alberta government is moving forward to increase the province's resiliency to future floods and other disasters.

Eleven flood hazard mapping reviews and updates are also underway and will be completed over the next two years. These updates will provide government and stakeholders with valuable information on which to base future decisions. In addition, Alberta is enhancing its flood forecasting system through a number of projects to strengthen communications with municipalities and improve the overall flood forecasting model. Measures include:

- A new automatic rainfall intensity alarm system in the Eastern Slopes area to alert staff and municipal emergency managers of rapid water level increases.
- An advisory and river basin data mobile app.
- Studies to determine worldwide best practices for river forecasting.

We are working closely with municipalities and talking about development rules in flood-prone areas.

Natural disasters are unpredictable, but we can control how we prepare, respond and recover from them. The recovery work undertaken following the 2013 Alberta Floods ensures that if another major disaster does occur, the province will be more resilient. Most importantly, residents will be better prepared to respond and recover thanks to Alberta's emergency response and recovery plan that can be put into action. We can – and are – taking steps to ensure any future disasters have a lesser impact on our homes and communities.

The first anniversary of the June 2013 floods is an important time to pause and reflect on the lives lost and devastation this disaster caused. Many Albertans are still displaced from their homes and businesses, and we'll support them as they continue to rebuild. Nonetheless, thanks to the incredible Alberta spirit, we have made exceptional progress in recovering from the floods in the past year.

Milestones

These are some of the key dates that highlight the efforts so far to address the events of June 2013.

2013

June – Major flooding struck Southern Alberta and Wood Buffalo. This was the largest and most expensive natural disaster in provincial history.

June 20 – Albertans evacuated due to the floods that are affecting much of southern and central Alberta

After June 20 – States of Local Emergency declared in 29 locations across the province

June 21 – Premier and Prime Minister pledge coordinated response to flooding

June 21 – Southern Alberta Flood Recovery Task Force established

June 23 – Office of Associate Ministers responsible for disaster recovery established

June 24– the Government of Alberta announced an initial $1 billion of flood recovery and reconstruction funding

June 26 – The Trans-Canada Highway damaged during the flooding was reopened to two lane traffic

June 28 – High River residents begin returning to their homes

June 29 – Initial Disaster Recovery Programs announced

June 29 – Financial assistance in the form of pre-loaded debit cards begin to be distributed in flood-affected communities

Early July – Registration centres for residents with flood damage opened

July 4 – Interim housing solutions announced

July 18 – Provincial Recovery Framework released

July 19 – Small business assistance programs begin

July 24 – Saddlebrook New Temporary Neighbourhood opened

August 1 – All provincial parks in Kananaskis are opened

August 22 – Relocation program announced

September – Information sessions held to answer Albertans' flood questions

September 26 – all pre-flood health services restored in High River

September 27 – Partnership with the Canadian Red Cross Society to deliver furnaces and hot water tanks into the homes of Albertans affected by the flood

September 27 – State of Emergency in High River concluded

October 4 – Flood mitigation symposium held

October 15 – Great Plains temporary neighbourhood opens in southeast Calgary

October 25 – Mental health supports program announced

November – Temporary schools fully in place

2014

January – Funding announced to help preserve heritage treasures in flood-impacted communities

February – Alberta pays tribute to Heroes of the Flood

March – Province receives initial disaster funding from the Government of Canada

April – New mitigation options identified to reduce the impact of future floods in Southern Alberta

May – Critical water management infrastructure upgrades announced